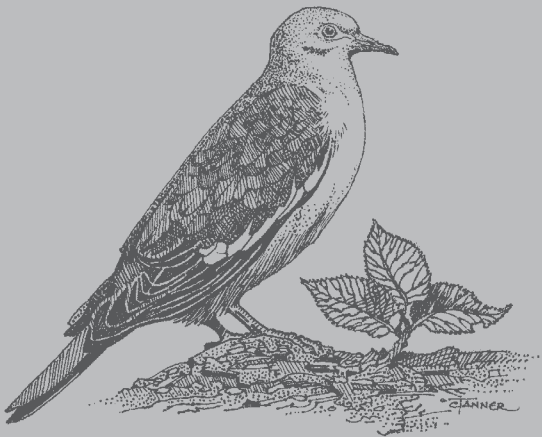


# **Arizona Dove and Band-tailed Pigeon Regulations 2008-2009**



## **Arizona Game and Fish Department**

5000 W. Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086

(602) 942-3000  
[www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov)



## **Synopsis of Federal Regulations Applicable to Migratory Bird Hunting**

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*Federal regulations regarding bird hunting are described in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). These can be found at [www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/](http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/). The regulations below can be found at 50 CFR 20.21 unless otherwise noted.*

**WEAPON** – Migratory game birds may be taken only with a 10 gauge or smaller shotgun capable of holding not more than three shells. Birds may also be taken by falconry or by bow and arrow, or crossbow.

**MOTOR-VEHICLE RESTRICTIONS** – No person may take migratory game birds from any motor-driven vehicle, including aircraft. Special regulations govern handicapped hunters.

**WATERCRAFT RESTRICTIONS** – Waterfowl may be hunted from a watercraft (except a sinkbox) including those propelled by motor, sail and wind, or both when the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sails furled and its progress therefrom has ceased. The watercraft may be drifting as a result of current or wind action on the hull, beached or moored, resting at anchor, or may be propelled by paddle, oars or pole. A watercraft under power may be used to retrieve dead or crippled waterfowl but no shooting is permitted while the watercraft is underway. It is illegal to drive or rally game birds toward hunters by use of any motor-driven conveyance or sail boat.

**DECOYS, CALLS AND BAITING** – Migratory birds may not be taken with the aid of live decoys, recorded bird calls or electronically amplified bird calls. It is illegal to take birds over baited areas. An area is considered baited for 10 days after the bait has been removed, and a hunter need not know an area has been baited to be in violation.

**RETRIEVAL AND TAGGING** – All birds downed shall be retrieved if possible, and retained in the custody of the hunter in the field. Crippled birds must be killed immediately. Any birds given to or left with another person must be tagged by the hunter with a tag showing his name, address, the number and species of birds, and the dates they were killed. Packages in which migratory game birds are shipped must show the names of the sender and receiver, and the number and species of birds contained in the parcel. (50 CFR 20.25, 20.36)

**BAG LIMIT** – No person may, during any one day, take more than one daily bag limit or possess more than one daily bag limit in the field, or while returning to the car, hunting camp or home. One feathered wing must be left attached to all migratory game birds until they reach their final destination.



ATTENTION DOVE AND PIGEON HUNTERS

\$4.50 ARIZONA MIGRATORY BIRD STAMP REQUIRED

Hunters age 16 and older of dove and band-tailed pigeon (as well as coots, snipe, and common moorhens) must purchase a \$4.50 Arizona Migratory Bird Stamp for the 2008-2009 season. The stamp validates a hunting license for the federal Harvest Information Program. The Arizona Migratory Bird Stamp is available for purchase at any license dealer or any Arizona Game and Fish Department office.

HUNTERS: MOURNING DOVE WING COLLECTION

Arizona is cooperating with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in collecting mourning dove wings from hunters this year. Randomly selected hunters will be asked to save one wing from each dove during the first week of the season and mail the wings (postage free) to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Hunters may also be contacted by Arizona Game and Fish Department employees in the field and asked to contribute wings. Data from the wings will be used to estimate annual productivity of the dove population, and eventually used in helping to establish hunting regulations.

SUNRISE/SUNSET 2008-2009

(Times shown are for central Arizona. Figure up to nine minutes earlier for eastern areas, nine minutes later for western areas.)

DATE	RISE	SET
Sept. 1	6:03	6:53
Sept. 5	6:05	6:48
Sept. 10	6:09	6:41
Sept. 15	6:12	6:34
Sept. 20	6:15	6:27
Sept. 25	6:19	6:20
Sept. 30	6:22	6:13
Oct. 1	6:23	6:12
Oct. 5	6:26	6:07
Oct. 10	6:30	6:00
Oct. 15	6:33	5:54
Oct. 20	6:37	5:48
Oct. 25	6:42	5:43
Oct. 30	6:46	5:38
Nov. 1	6:48	5:36
Nov. 5	6:51	5:32
Nov. 10	6:56	5:29
Nov. 15	7:00	5:25
Nov. 20	7:05	5:23
Nov. 25	7:10	5:21
Nov. 30	7:14	5:20
Dec. 1	7:15	5:20
Dec. 5	7:18	5:20
Dec. 10	7:22	5:21
Dec. 15	7:25	5:22
Dec. 20	7:28	5:24
Dec. 25	7:31	5:27
Dec. 30	7:32	5:30
Jan. 1	7:33	5:32
Jan. 5	7:33	5:35



## One Feathered Wing

Sportsmen should note that one feathered wing must be left attached to all migratory game birds, including Eurasian collared-doves, until they reach their final destination.

## Littering While Hunting

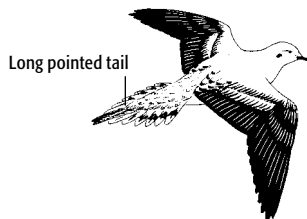
All hunters are responsible for cleaning up after themselves. Shell casings (shotshell hulls) and associated debris constitute litter and must be picked up and packed out. All camp areas must be left clean.

## Dove Bands

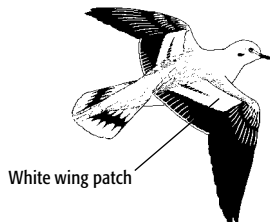
During the past five summers, Arizona banded more than 7,000 doves throughout the state as part of a nation-wide effort to better manage mourning doves. The hunter is a critical link in this mourning dove banding study. Banded doves have a numbered band and phone number. If you harvest a banded mourning dove please call 1(800) 327-BAND (2263) to report it or go online at [www.pwrc.usgs.gov](http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov) and select "Bird Banding Lab". Hunters can keep the bands and will be provided a certificate identifying the age, sex, date and location the bird was banded.

## Legal Game Doves (May Be Hunted During Open Season)

**MOURNING DOVE** Slightly smaller than the white-winged dove. Mourning doves may fly with white-winged doves, but can be distinguished by their more rapid wing beat, more erratic flight path and pointed tail. In fall, the highest densities are found in desert agricultural areas, around water sources and desert areas where annuals are abundant.

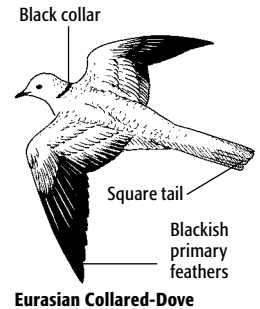


**WHITE-WINGED DOVE** Somewhat larger than a mourning dove with a white bar on the upper wing surface and a long, moderately rounded tail. The range of white-winged doves generally coincides with the distribution of the saguaro cactus.



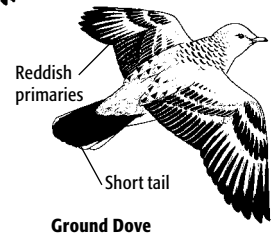
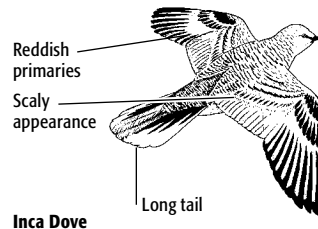
## Legal Game Doves (May Be Hunted During Open Season)

**EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE** Eurasian collared-doves are larger than both the native white-winged and mourning doves. They have a black collar on the top part of the neck, pale gray coloration, and dark primary feathers. These doves are an introduced species that have recently expanded their range into Arizona. Originally native on the Indian subcontinent, this bird was introduced to the Bahamas in the 1970s and quickly spread to Florida. Since then, they have moved westward into Arizona.



## Protected Birds (May Not Be Hunted)

**INCA DOVE AND GROUND DOVE:** *Small birds approximately half the size of a mourning dove.* Both are gray and fly close to the ground with rapid wingbeats. The inca has a scaly appearance with a long tail that has white margins. Ground dove has a short, round dark tail. Common summer resident in the better watered valleys, mostly south of the Mogollon Rim.



## Dove Notes:

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1. **BAG LIMIT:** Ten (10) Mourning and White-winged Doves per day in the aggregate, of which no more than six (6) may be White-winged Doves. **POSSESSION LIMIT:** Twenty (20) Mourning and White-winged Doves in the aggregate after opening day, of which no more than twelve (12) may be White-winged Doves. No more than ten (10) doves in the aggregate, of which no more than six (6) may be White-winged Doves, may be taken in any one day.
2. **BAG LIMIT:** Ten (10) Mourning Doves per day. **POSSESSION LIMIT:** Twenty (20) Mourning Dove after opening day, of which no more than ten (10) may be taken in any one day.
3. **EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT:** Unlimited.
4. **FALCONRY BAG LIMIT:** Three (3) per day. Note: The aggregate falconry bag limit of all migratory game birds is three (3), comprised of any combination of migratory game bird species for which a general season, that includes falconry as a legal method of take, or a falconry-only season is open. Falconers should consult Commission Orders 19, 20, 21, and 22 for season dates and open areas. The falconry bag limit is not in addition to the firearms bag limits. **FALCONRY POSSESSION LIMIT:** Six (6) in the aggregate of all migratory game birds in season (Commission Orders 19 through 22) after opening day, of which no more than three (3) may be taken in any one day.
5. The Bill Williams River, Cibola, Imperial, Buenos Aires, Havasu and San Bernadino National Wildlife Refuges are open to dove hunting EXCEPT for posted portions. A fee may be required for hunting on National Wildlife Refuges, see refuge regulations.
6. Robbins Butte Wildlife Area - EXCEPT as authorized in this Commission order for the September Juniors-Only Dove season, the following area is closed to all taking of wildlife during the September dove season: Beginning at the junction of the Robbins Butte main access road and the road which runs northeasterly from the orange irrigation pump, which lies approximately 1/2 mile west of US Hwy 85; northeasterly 1-1/4 mile along posted fenceline to the southerly edge of the active channel of the Gila River; southwesterly 2-1/2 miles along the southerly edge of the active channel of the river to the south center section line of Section 21; south 1 mile along posted center section line and east edge of dirt road to approximately the center of Section 28 and the intersection of the north edge of a dirt road; east 3/4 mile along posted north edge of road to a cattleguard; north 1/4 mile along posted fenceline to the north edge of Robbins Butte main access road; easterly 1-1/2 miles along the posted north edge of the Robbins Butte main access road to the point of beginning; all in T1S, R4W, Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Maricopa County, Arizona.
7. A portion of 47M has been closed to hunting. Hunting is not permitted in the following area of unit 47M: an unincorporated portion of land within the City of Mesa known as the Elliot and Hawes County Island in Section 16, Township 1 South, Range 7 East.
8. **SHOOTING HOURS:** One half-hour before sunrise until noon (restricted hunting hours apply to all methods of take).
9. **SHOOTING HOURS:** One half-hour before sunrise until sunset.
10. **HARVEST INFORMATION PROGRAM:** As required by A.R.S. 17-333.03 and R12-4-203, dove hunters age 16 and older shall

have in their possession an Arizona Migratory Bird Stamp which will validate their license for the federal Harvest Information Program. The Arizona Migratory Bird Stamp may be obtained, for a cost of \$4.50 on or after July 1, from any Arizona Game and Fish Department office or wherever hunting licenses are sold.

11. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermillion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
12. **SELECTION OF HUNTERS:** A limited portion of the wildlife area will be restricted to junior hunters only. Shooting stations will be assigned on a first-come, first served basis unless there are more

people desiring to participate than available shooting stations, then a drawing will be held at 4:45 a.m. Hunters must check in prior to hunting and check out following completion of their hunt at the Game and Fish Department check station.

13. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 26M in the following described area: Those private lands lying just north of the Town of Cave Creek in Sections 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 of Township 6 North, Range 3 East.
14. Falconry hunting will not be permitted on National Wildlife Refuges.

## Dove: Commission Order 19

### GENERAL DOVE

*Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.*

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Sep 1 - Sep 15, 2008	(1,4,5,9,10,11,14)	North Zone - Management Units 1 through 15C, 16A, 17 through 20A, 23, and 24A	Any Mourning or White-winged dove
Sep 1 - Sep 15, 2008	(1,4,5,6,7,8,10,11,13,14)	South Zone - Management Units 15D, 16B, 20B, 20C, 21, 22, and 24B through 46	Any Mourning or White-winged dove
Nov 21, 2008 - Jan 4, 2009	(2,4,5,7,9,10,11,13,14)	Open areas statewide	Any Mourning dove
Sep 1, 2008 - Aug 31, 2009	(3,5,7,9,11,13,14)	Open areas statewide	Any Eurasian collared dove

**LAWFUL TAKING DEVICE:** Shotgun, bow and arrow, or crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-304 or by falconry.

**LICENSE REQUIRED:** Any valid hunting license plus a Migratory Bird Stamp (A Migratory Bird Stamp is not required for Eurasian collared doves). Falconers must be licensed pursuant to R12-4-422 or exempted pursuant to R12-4-407.

### JUNIORS-ONLY DOVE

*Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.*

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Sep 6 - Sep 7, 2008	(1,6,8,10,12)	Robbins Butte Wildlife Area	Mourning dove, White-winged dove, and Eurasian collared dove
Sep 1 - Sep 15, 2008	(1,5,6,7,9,10,11,13)	South Zone - Management Units 15D, 16B, 20B, 20C, 21, 22, and 24B through 46	Mourning dove, White-winged dove, and Eurasian collared dove

**LAWFUL TAKING DEVICE:** Shotgun, bow and arrow, or crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

**LICENSE REQUIRED:** Any valid hunting license required for participants age 14 through 17; participants under 14 need not be licensed if accompanied by a licensed adult as prescribed in ARS 17-335.

**ELIGIBLE HUNTERS:** Pursuant to R12-4-318 persons are eligible to participate up to and throughout the calendar year of their 17th birthday.

### FALCONRY-ONLY DOVE

*Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.*

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Sep 17 - Nov 2, 2008	(4,6,7,10,11,13,14)	Open areas statewide	Mourning dove, White-winged dove, and Eurasian collared dove

**LAWFUL TAKING DEVICE:** Falconry as prescribed in R12-4-318 and R12-4-101.

**LICENSE REQUIRED:** Any valid hunting license plus a Migratory Bird Stamp. Falconers must be licensed pursuant to R12-4-422 or exempted pursuant to R12-4-407.

**HAWKING HOURS:** One-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

# Band-tailed Pigeon: Commission Order 20

## GENERAL BAND-TAILED PIGEON

*Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.*

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Sep 12 - Oct 5, 2008	(1,2)	North Zone - Management Units 1 through 15C, 16A, 17 through 20A, 23, and 24	Any Band-tailed Pigeon
Sep 19 - Oct 5, 2008	(1,2,3)	South Zone - Management Units 15D, 16B, 20B, 20C, 21, 22, and 24B through 46	Any Band-tailed Pigeon

**LAWFUL TAKING DEVICE:** Shotgun, bow and arrow, or crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-304 or by falconry.  
**LICENSE REQUIRED:** Any valid hunting license license plus a Migratory Bird Stamp. Falconers must be licensed pursuant to R12-4-422 or exempted pursuant to R12-4-407.  
**SHOOTING HOURS:** One-half hour before sunrise until sunset.  
**BAG LIMIT:** Five (5) Band-tailed pigeons per day.  
**POSSESSION LIMIT:** Ten (10) Band-tailed pigeons after opening day, of which no more than five (5) may be taken in any one day.  
**FALCONRY BAG LIMIT:** Three (3) per day. Note: The aggregate falconry bag limit of all migratory game birds is three (3), comprised of any combination of migratory game bird species for which a general season, that includes falconry as a legal method of take, or a falconry-only season is open. Falconers should consult Commission Orders 19, 20, 21 and 22 for season dates and open areas. The falconry bag limit is not in addition to the firearms bag limits.  
**FALCONRY POSSESSION LIMIT:** Six (6) in the aggregate of all migratory game birds in season (Commission Orders 19 through 22) after opening day, of which no more than three (3) may be taken in any one day.

## Band-tailed Pigeon Notes:

1. HARVEST INFORMATION PROGRAM: As required by A.R.S. 17-333.03 and R12-4-203, band-tailed pigeon hunters age 16 and older shall have in their possession an Arizona Migratory Bird Stamp which will validate their license for the federal Harvest Information Program. The Arizona Migratory Bird Stamp may be obtained, for a cost of \$4.50 on or after July 1, from any Arizona Game and Fish Department office or wherever hunting licenses are sold.
2. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermillion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
3. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 26M in the following described area: Those private lands lying just north of the Town of Cave Creek in Sections 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 of Township 6 North, Range 3 East.



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